# First Congregational
## United Church of Christ

111 S. Wallace Blvd. Ypsilanti, MI 48197
(Mailing Address: P.O. Box 980413 Ypsilanti, MI 48198)
www.ypsiucc.org

**An open and affirming community committed to peace and justice**

**June 19, 2022**
**10:00 am**

**“In God’s Presence”**
**Juneteenth**
**Faithful Family Day (Fathers’ Day)**

**No matter who you are or where you are on life’s journey, You are welcome here!**

**WORSHIP ON ZOOM -- Zoom opens at 9:30 am Sunday morning.**

**https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7643282234**

Meeting ID: 764 328 2234
Passcode: Ypsi1882
To join by phone, dial the number, 1-312-626-6799

- Welcome to Ypsilanti First Congregational UCC's Zoom Worship Service
- Hymns are included in the worship bulletin. A separate hymnal is not needed.
- If you are joining worship for the first-time on Zoom, please add your name and email to the chat so the Zoomie Greeter can introduce you.
- Thank you for choosing to worship with us today!

## OPEN AND AFFIRMING COVENANT OF
## First Congregational United Church of Christ, Ypsilanti

First Congregational United Church of Christ, Ypsilanti celebrates everyone, including people of all ages, races, cultures, sexual orientations, gender identifies and expressions, family configurations, economic circumstances, physical, cognitive or emotional abilities, education or spiritual or religious traditions. All are welcome to participate fully in the life, leadership, ministry, and missions of this church as we seek to grow together in a safe, nurturing community of faith. We strive to demonstrate in all ways that "NO MATTER WHO YOU ARE OR WHERE YOU ARE ON LIFE'S JOURNEY, YOU ARE WELCOME HERE!"

a just world for all
ucc.org

## PREPARING FOR WORSHIP

**PRELUDE** *Start Zoom Recoding to Cloud **JOSHUA CATANIA**

**"I Sing as I Arise Today",** St. Patrick

**RINGING THE BELL** **MARTY KLEINO**

**WELCOME** **PASTOR LIZ**

- A warm welcome to all, including first-time visitors.
- As stated in our Open and Affirming Covenant (previous page), all persons are welcome in this community of faith.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS** **PATTY SHERWOOD**

- **COMMUNITY SHARING OF OTHER ANNOUNCMENTS:**
  - The Worship Leader and Greeter is Patty Sherwood.
  - The Greeter will introduce folks participating in worship.
  - Please share your announcements so everyone can learn what is happening in our beloved ministry community.
  - Please submit written announcements to Margaret Harner, Worship Coordinator, margaretsharner@gmail.com, by midnight on Tuesday.

## GATHERING TO WORSHIP

**GATHERING HYMN** *Microphone muted **TIFFANIE WALDRON**

**"Every Step of the Way"**
**66 SING**

**CALL TO WORSHIP (Responsive)** **PATTY SHERWOOD**

Leader: The church of Jesus Christ-

**People: is where a child of God brings a balloon**
**is where folks come to dance**
**is where the young see visions and the old dream dreams**

Leader: The church of Jesus Christ-

**People: is where lepers come to be touched**
**is where the blind see and the deaf hear**
**is where the lame run and the dying live**

Leader: The church of Jesus Christ-

**People: is where loaves of bread are stacked to feed the hungry**
**is where coats are taken off and put on the backs of the naked**
**is where shackles are discarded and all sit down to life together**

Leader: The church of Jesus Christ-

**People: is where the sea divides for exiles and people seeking safety**
**is where the ark floats and the lamb lies down with the lion**
**is where people can disagree and hold hands at the same time**

Leader: The church of Jesus Christ-

**People: is where home is**
**is where heaven is**
**is where a picnic is communion and people break bread together**
**on their knees**

Leader: The church of Jesus Christ is where we live responsively.

**People: Even on Monday morning**
**the world will hear an abundance of alleluias.**

**HYMN** *Microphone muted **TIFFANIE WALDRON**
**"Many Are the Lightbeams"**
**163 NCH**

## LISTENING FOR GOD

**FIRST READING** **1 Kings 19:1-15a** **PATTY SHERWOOD**

**SECOND READING** **Luke 8:26-39** **PASTOR LIZ**

**HYMN** *Microphone muted **TIFFANIE WALDRON**
**"I'm So Glad, Jesus Lifted Me"**
**474 NCH**

**MORNING MESSAGE** **"In God's Presence"** **PASTOR LIZ**

## CONVERSING WITH THE HOLY ONE

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE** *Pause Zoom recording
*Zoomies: Please turn on your microphone

You are invited to share your joys and petitions for prayer.
Please unmute your microphone to share a joy or make a prayer of petition.
At the end of each joy or petition, please say **"God in your mercy"**
We will respond (with microphones muted) **"Hear our prayers"**

**PASTORAL PRAYER** *Restart Zoom recording **PASTOR LIZ**

**DISCIPLES' PRAYER (Unison)** *Microphone muted **PASTOR LIZ**

**Holy and Gracious God,**
**In our troubled world, fear seeks to be our constant companion.**
**It stifles us with its overwhelming presence and prolific imagination.**
**It blocks our vision and your path and suppresses our joy in you.**
**Forgive us for not trusting all you offer us.**
**Help us forgive others who have caused us pain.**
**Empower us to reject all that blocks us from receiving your truth,**
**your presence, and your invitation to be our companion on our journey.**
**Lead us all forward in hope for shalom.**
**Amen**

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## OFFERING

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**OFFERTORY INVITATION** **PASTOR LIZ**

**Our electronic giving platform is Tithe.ly: Link to Tithe.ly**

**Please place in-person offerings in the gold offertory plate on the table by the door.**

**Checks can be mailed to:**
**First Congregational United Church of Christ**
**PO Box 980413, Ypsilanti, MI 48198**

***Thank you for your generosity!***

**OFFERTORY** **"Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart"** **JOSHUA CATANIA**
By George Croly

**DOXOLOGY** *Microphone muted **TIFFANIE WALDRON**

**"Take My Gifts" v.2 562 NCH**

*Take the fruits that I have gathered from the tree your Spirit sowed,*
*Harvest of your own compassion, juice that makes the wine of God,*
*Spiced with humor, laced with laughter, flavor of the Jesus life,*
*Tang of risk and new adventure, taste and zest beyond belief.*

**PRAYER OF DEDICATION** *Unison with Microphone muted **PATTY SHERWOOD**

**Generous, abundant, and precious God, bless our offerings of presence, ability, and resources as we participate as your co-creators. Amen.**

## DEPARTING WITH PRAISE

**CLOSING HYMN** *Microphone muted **TIFFANIE WALDRON**

**"Lift Every Voice and Sing"**
**286 NCH**

**BENEDICTION (Responsive)** **PASTOR LIZ**

Leader: May peace be with you as you confront lies with truth and fear with hope.
May the Abiding One strengthen you to stand in truth and hope.
May the Living Water refresh you with new streams of righteousness.
May Wisdom be the voice you follow now as you go out into the world,
encouraged, emboldened, and renewed.
Amen

**People: Amen**

**POSTLUDE** **"May the Sending One Defend You** **JOSHUA CATANIA**
By Brian Wren

**PASSING THE PEACE** **FRIENDS GATHERED**

- Share a greeting with others as we transition to our casual **Friendship Time.**
-

**Zoom Only Sunday Worship 10:00 am**

**Rev. Liz Larrivee, Pastor & Spiritual Director**
**Tiffanie Waldron, Music Director**
**Joshua Catania, Guest Accompanist**

**Jenn Zibbell, Ministry Intern, MID**
**Patty Sherwood, Worship Leader/Greeter**
**Marty Kleino, Usher & Bell Ringer**

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**ATTRIBUTIONS FOR TODAY'S BULLETIN**

- **Cover Art:** Photo Mehdi Sepehri on Unsplash
- **Call to Worship:** *Reaching for Rainbows,* Ann Weems (adapted)
- **Prayer of Dedication:** *All Truth,* Rev. Cheryl A. Lindsay, Minister for Worship & Theology, UCC (adaptaed)
- **Disciples Prayer & Benediction:** *Fear of Truth,* Rev. Cheryl A. Lindsay, Minister for Worship & Theology, UCC (Adapted)
- **Hymn Profiles:** *The New Century Hymnal Companion.* Pilgrim Press 1999.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Worship Next Week:** **Margaret Harner will bring the message next week. Thank you Margaret for sharing you faith and gifts with us. Barbara Garland, Worship Leader.**

**Coming Soon: Weekly Zoom sessions for our community of faith to complete the work of "Purpose = Identity + Context + Values" from Susan Beaumont's *How to Lead When You Don't Know WhereYou're Going: Leading in a Liminal Season*.** A heartfelt thank you to everyone who participated in the Lenten/Easter Community Discernment book study. The conversation was robust and timely. And…it was fun to be together outside of worship! God is still speaking...and we are listening and discerning. Look for a Google Survey asking for day and time preferences to determine the weekly time slot that works best for most folks.

**Church Council:** **Church Council will meet on Monday, June 20, at 6:00 PM on Zoom.**

**May 29 – September 11: Sunday worship will be on Zoom-only.**

**Sunday, September 18 is our Fall Kick-Off Sunday**. Hybrid worship (both in-person and on Zoom) resumes.
**Sunday, September 25** is our Neighborhood and Community Pet Blessing Ceremony. Jenn Zibbell, MID, is Team Lead for this special event. Look for more from Jenn as to how you can participate in preparations.

**THE HISTORICAL LEGACY OF JUNETEENTH**

On "Freedom's Eve," or the eve of January 1, 1863, the first Watch Night services took place. On that night, enslaved and free African Americans gathered in churches and private homes all across the country awaiting news that the Emancipation Proclamation had taken effect. At the stroke of midnight, prayers were answered as all enslaved people in Confederate States were declared legally free. Union soldiers, many of whom were black, marched onto plantations and across cities in the south reading small copies of the Emancipation Proclamation spreading the news of freedom in Confederate States. Only through the Thirteenth Amendment did emancipation end slavery throughout the United States.

**But not everyone in Confederate territory would immediately be free.** Even though the Emancipation Proclamation was made effective in 1863, it could not be implemented in places still under Confederate control. As a result, in the westernmost Confederate state of Texas, enslaved people would not be free until much later. Freedom finally came on June 19, 1865, when some 2,000 Union troops arrived in Galveston Bay, Texas. The army announced that the more than 250,000 enslaved black people in the state, were free by executive decree. This day came to be known as "Juneteenth," by the newly freed people in Texas.

The post-emancipation period known as Reconstruction (1865-1877) marked an era of great hope, uncertainty, and struggle for the nation as a whole. Formerly enslaved people immediately sought to reunify families, establish schools, run for political office, push radical legislation and even sue slaveholders for compensation. Given the 200+ years of enslavement, such changes were nothing short of amazing. Not even a generation out of slavery, African Americans were inspired and empowered to transform their lives and their country.

Juneteenth marks our country's second independence day. Although it has long celebrated in the African American community, this monumental event remains largely unknown to most Americans. The historical legacy of Juneteenth shows the value of never giving up hope in uncertain times. ***Nat'l Museum of African American History & Culture,*** *community space where spirit of hope lives on.*

**Pride Month:** We celebrate the progress that has been made to ensure full protection and inclusion for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, and intersex (LGBTQI+). However, we are painfully aware LGBTQI siblings still face systemic discrimination and barriers to full participation in all facets of community life. On June 15th President Biden signed an executive order addressing the still present inequality. Below are brief excerpts from the Executive Order and link to access the full text.

## Executive Order on Advancing Equality for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, and Intersex Individuals

JUNE 15, 2022•PRESIDENTIAL ACTIONS

*Section 1. Policy. Our Nation has made great strides in fulfilling the fundamental promises of freedom and equality for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, and intersex (LGBTQI+) Americans, owing to the leadership of generations of LGBTQI+ individuals. In spite of this historic progress, LGBTQI+ individuals and families still face systemic discrimination and barriers to full participation in our Nation's economic and civic life. These disparities and barriers can be the greatest for transgender people and LGBTQI+ people of color. Today, unrelenting political and legislative attacks at the State level — on LGBTQI+ children and families in particular — threaten the civil rights gains of the last half century and put LGBTQI+ people at risk. These attacks defy our American values of liberty and dignity, corrode our democracy, and threaten basic personal safety. . . . . The Federal Government must defend the rights and safety of LGBTQI+ individuals. . . . . .*

[We must] *combat unlawful discrimination and eliminate disparities that harm LGBTQI+ individuals and their families, defend their rights and safety, and pursue a comprehensive approach to delivering the full promise of equality for LGBTQI+ individuals, consistent with Executive Order 13988 of January 20, 2021 (Preventing and Combating Discrimination on the Basis of Gender Identity or Sexual Orientation).*

[We] *must take action to address the significant disparities that LGBTQI+ youth face in the foster care system, the misuse of State and local child welfare agencies to target LGBTQI+ youth and families, and the mental health needs of LGBTQI+ youth . . . .and safeguard LGBTQI+ youth from dangerous practices like so-called "conversion therapy" — efforts to suppress or change an individual's sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression — a discredited practice that research indicates can cause significant harm, including higher rates of suicide-related thoughts and behaviors by LGBTQI+ youth. [*We] *must strengthen the supports for LGBTQI+ students in our Nation's schools and other education and training programs. . . . . .address the discrimination and barriers that LGBTQI+ individuals and families face by expanding access to comprehensive health care; prevent and address LGBTQI+ homelessness and housing instability. Through these actions,* [we] *will help ensure that every person — regardless of who they are or whom they love — has the opportunity to live freely and with dignity.*

*Sec. 2. Addressing Harmful and Discriminatory Legislative Attacks on LGBTQI+ Children, Youth, and Families. . . .*

*(b) The Secretary of Education shall, as appropriate and consistent with applicable law, use the Department of Education's authorities to support LGBTQI+ students, their families, educators, and other school personnel targeted by harmful State and local laws and practices, and shall promote the adoption of promising policies and practices to support the safety, well-being, and rights of LGBTQI+ students.*

https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/presidential-actions/2022/06/15/executive-order-on-advancing-equality-for-lesbian-gay-bisexual-transgender-queer-and-intersex-individuals/

## OUR CHURCH'S MISSIONS

## THE BEACON CENTER

The **Beacon Center** is the newest community social justice of the Ypsilanti First Congregational UCC. As a light to all persons, the Beacon Center's ministry will support the spiritual formation, creative expression, overall thriving and advocacy of at-risk students of all ages, including those affiliated with three primary local institutions of higher learning: Eastern Michigan University, Washtenaw Community College and University of Michigan. In the Spirit of the UCC moto, "That They All Shall Be One", Beacon Center serves as a uniting and unifying umbrella across our congregation serving persons sources through our three other community social justice ministry networks. Those ministries (each detailed below) include WICIR (Washtenaw Interfaith Coalition for Immigrant Rights) serving the immigrant communities, MI-ONA (Michigan Open and Affirming Coalition) serving LGTBQ+ persons, and WeROC (Washtenaw Regional Organizing Coalition) which brings together faith, labor and community organizations to address local issues.

The Beacon Center is committed to advocate for self-determination and education for all people, especially students living in poverty, persons of color experiencing racism, and other de-humanizing circumstances and conditions. Beacon Center's student demographics include persons of color, immigrants, minorities, LGTBQ+ folk, women, those with special needs, the economically disadvantaged, those facing housing insecurity, the financially challenged, and the working poor. For additional information on the Beacon Center, please contact Rev. Liz Larrivee at lizlarrivee@gmail.com

### IMMIGRATION MINISTRY – WASHTENAW INTERFAITH COALITION FOR IMMIGRANT RIGHTS (WICIR)

Since 2008, **WICIR** has been working with, and in support of, immigrants in Washtenaw County facing challenges of many kinds. At our inception the primary need that brought us together was to support people facing enforcement action by ICE (Immigration and Customs Enforcement); most often detention, deportation, and removal. To date, WICIR has responded to 650 calls. Always in partnership with folks most affected, many actions and services have evolved as identified by our immigrant siblings, while always keeping focused on our original mission:

*To provide culturally sensitive and supportive urgent response to those in Washtenaw County in immigration-related crises; impact local governmental policies to empower and protect immigrant community members; and work toward humane national immigration reform.*

Our outreach has been significantly impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. Many in immigrant communities have experienced significant challenges as they struggle to pay rent, provide food for their families and other basic survival needs. To respond, WICIR, in partnership with Mexiquenses in Michigan (from St. Francis of Assisi Parish), has raised and distributed $200,000 relief funds to immigrants and their families. We have a waiting list of those still in need and will continue this effort as funds are available.

For information about what's happening with immigrant rights and **Washtenaw Interfaith Coalition for Immigrant Rights**, or if you are interested in learning ways to help, please contact Melanie Harner at melharner@gmail.com or through the WICIR website: https://wicir.org/. You can also find a link on the church website.

**WASHTENAW REGIONAL ORGANIZING COALITION**

First Congregational is a founding institution of the local "organization of organizations" **WeROC (Washtenaw Regional Organizing Coalition)**. In many ways, WeROC is a larger illustration of the values and mission we try to live out at First Congregational. WeROC members are, at our core, focused on intentionally re-weaving the frayed fabric of community at a time when forces are at work every day to keep us fragmented, suspicious of each other, feeling isolated. Especially in this time when so many are being hit by the health and economic crises, WeROC's focus on raising voices of those most affected is more important than ever (See COVID-19 Resources at www.werocmi.org) WeROC's Mission Statement is:

*WeROC brings together faith, labor, community organizations, and individuals to build the healthy collective power needed to break down the systems that sustain injustice, racism, and economic inequality.*

WeROC is affiliated with the Detroit Metro organization MOSES and the Gamliel National Network. Contact Tad Wysor at tadwysor@gmail.com or 734-883-3225.

This past election year showed us good things can happen when we're working together in the same direction. WeROC is moving rapidly **forward** to keep momentum going and find ways to continue to be more effective together in making our communities healthier and more vibrant places; improving the lives of *everyone* in big ways-- especially those who are most vulnerable and whose voice have seldom been heard.

# Every Step of the Way

♩=128
F C/E Dm C B♭ Dm/A C/G Gsus G
♩=128
7
Cmaj9 G/B Am Am/G Dm7 Gsus G
Help me do the jus - tice to be done to - day.
11
C G/B Am Am/G Dm7
Help me love kind - ness in all I do and say.

Words and Music: Christopher Grundy
Music arrangement: Christopher Grundy and Gregory Milton
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2

14
Gsus
G
Em7
F
C♯dim
— Help me walk hum - bly with you, O
17
Dm7
Gsus
G
F
God I pray ev - 'ry step of the way,
20
Dm7
C/E
F/G
C
— ev - 'ry step of the way.

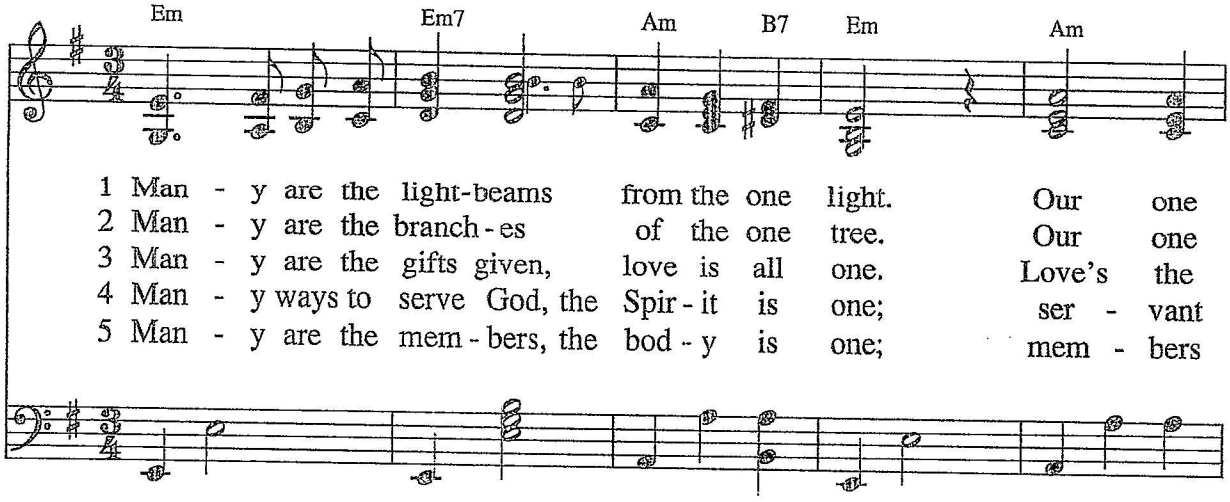
# Many Are the Lightbeams

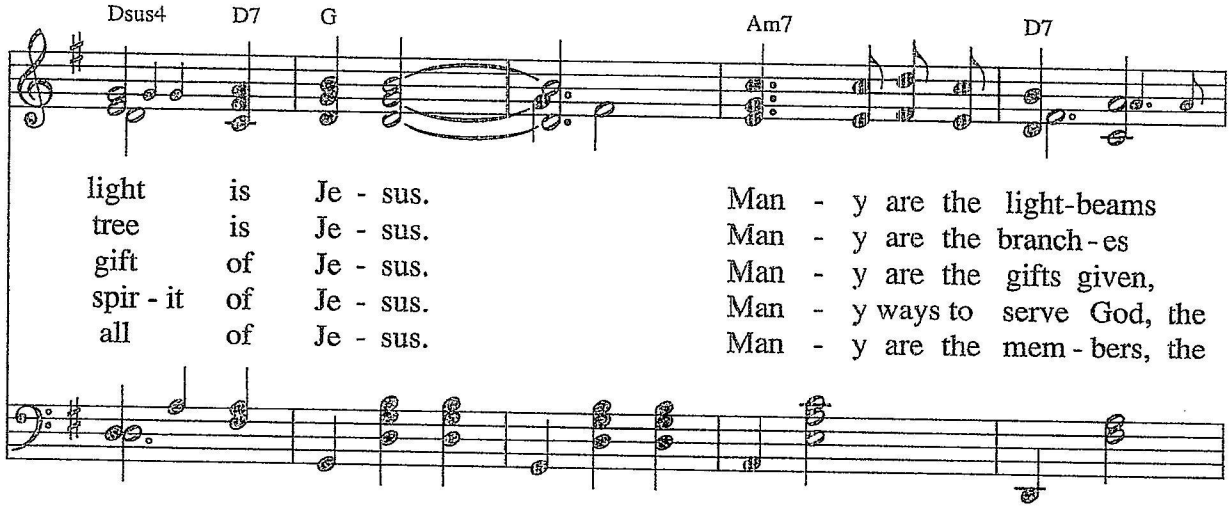


*Cyprian of Carthage, "De unitate ecclesiae," 252 C.E.*
*Swedish paraphr. by Anders Frostenson (b. 1906)*
*Transl. David Lewis, 1983*

*John 8:12; 9:5; 15:1–5; 1 Cor. 12:4–27; Gal. 3:28*

*Unison*


Em
Em7
Am
B7
Em
Am
1 Man - y are the light-beams from the one light. Our one
2 Man - y are the branch - es of the one tree. Our one
3 Man - y are the gifts given, love is all one. Love's the
4 Man - y ways to serve God, the Spir - it is one; ser - vant
5 Man - y are the mem - bers, the bod - y is one; mem - bers


Dsus4
D7
G
Am7
D7
light is Je - sus. Man - y are the light-beams
tree is Je - sus. Man - y are the branch - es
gift of Je - sus. Man - y are the gifts given,
spir - it of Je - sus. Man - y ways to serve God, the
all of Je - sus. Man - y are the mem - bers, the

GM7
C7
Em
B7
Em
from the one light; we are one in Christ.
of the one tree; we are one in Christ.
love is all one; we are one in Christ.
Spir - it is one; we are one in Christ.
bod - y is one; we are one in Christ.

*The text upon which this hymn is based is by a bishop of the early church, Cyprian of Carthage. It was paraphrased from his 252 C.E. work, "De unitate ecclesiae" (Of church unity). He was martyred in Carthage c. 258.*

Tune: LIGHTBEAMS Irr.
*Olle Widestrand (b. 1906)*
*Arr. Darryl Nixon, 1987*

# I'm So Glad, Jesus Lifted Me



*African-American spiritual*

1 I'm so glad, Je-sus lift-ed me, I'm so glad,
2 Sa - tan had me bound, Je-sus lift-ed me, Sa - tan had me bound,
3 When I was in trou - ble, Je-sus lift-ed me, when I was in trou - ble,
Je - sus lift - ed me, I'm so glad,
Je - sus lift - ed me, Sa - tan had me bound,
Je - sus lift - ed me, when I was in trou - ble,
Je-sus lift-ed me, sing-ing glo-ry, hal-le - lu - jah, Je-sus lift-ed me.

*Just as the spirituals were adapted to be sung in a folk-song style during the 1960s music festivals and civil rights marches, so have they been adapted in a gospel style. This is a spiritual that especially lends itself to gospel rendering.*

Tune: I'M SO GLAD Irr.
*African-American spiritual*

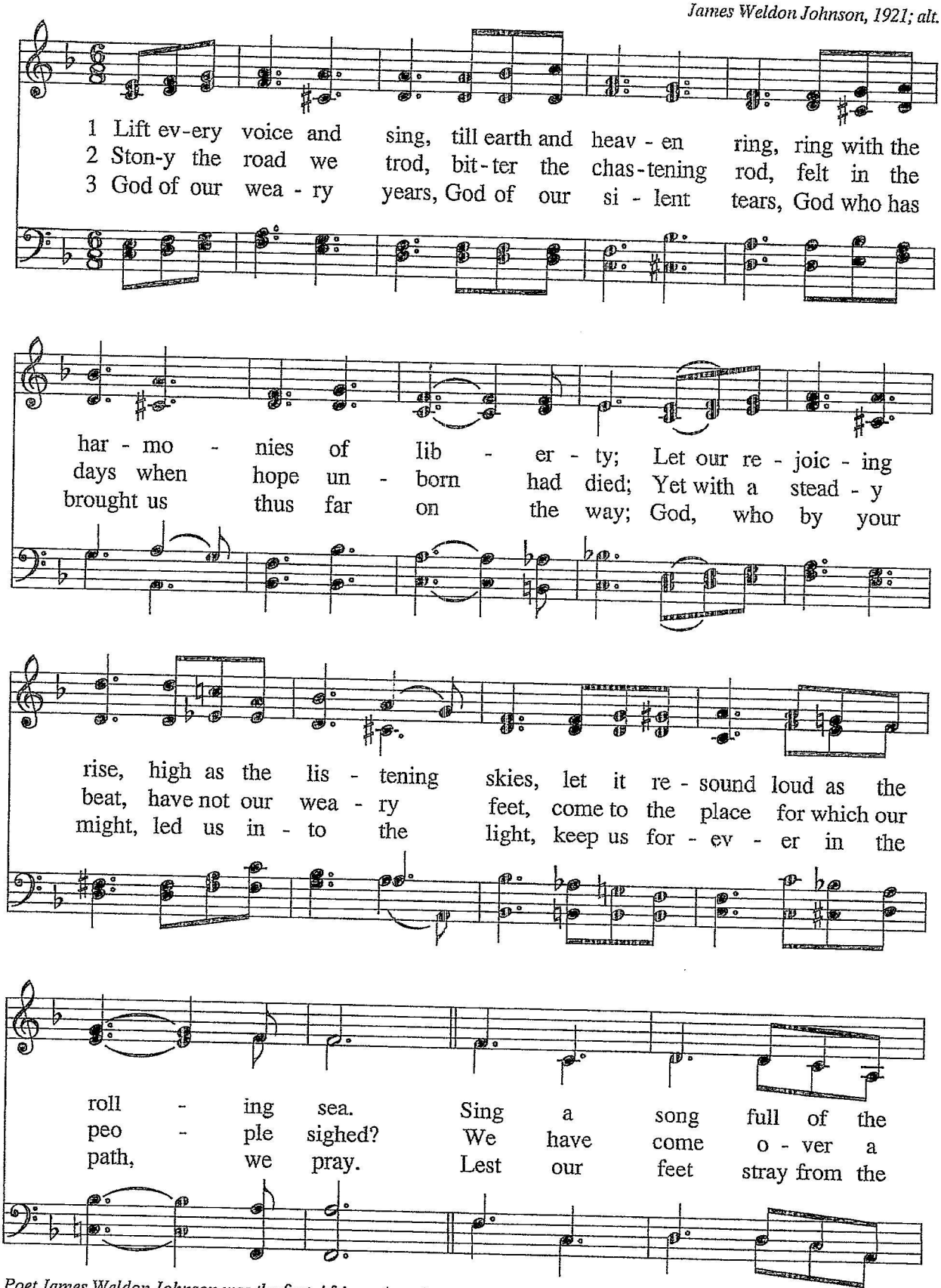
African American spirituals must be interpreted in light of the experience of slavery in which they were born. Although on the surface many would appear to be a reflection on the slaves' religious experience or conversion, they can also be interpreted to refer to the anticipation of freedom through Jesus' intervention in this life or the eternal life to come.

Written notation often cannot convey the excitement of a piece of music as it would have been performed. Subtleties of rhythm are often a matter of "feel." Jeffrey Radford has attempted to capture the mood of this song in an arrangement in the accompanist edition of *The New Century Hymnal.*

# Lift Every Voice and Sing

1/2

*James Weldon Johnson, 1921; alt.*


1 Lift ev-ery voice and sing, till earth and heav - en ring, ring with the
2 Ston-y the road we trod, bit-ter the chas-tening rod, felt in the
3 God of our wea - ry years, God of our si - lent tears, God who has
har - mo - nies of lib - er - ty; Let our re - joic - ing
days when hope un - born had died; Yet with a stead - y
brought us thus far on the way; God, who by your
rise, high as the lis - tening skies, let it re - sound loud as the
beat, have not our wea - ry feet, come to the place for which our
might, led us in - to the light, keep us for - ev - er in the
roll - ing sea. Sing a song full of the
peo - ple sighed? We have come o - ver a
path, we pray. Lest our feet stray from the

*Poet James Weldon Johnson was the first African-American to pass the bar examination in the state of Florida, and served as U.S. consul in Venezuela and Nicaragua. He collaborated with his composer brother, John Rosamond Johnson, to write Broadway operettas and edit song collections. John appeared in vaudeville, directed London musicals, and headed the Music School Settlement in New York.*

Tune: LIFT EVERY VOICE Irr.
*J. Rosamond Johnson, 1921*

593

212

faith that the harsh past has taught us, Sing a song full of the
way that with tears has been wa - tered, We have come, tread - ing our
plac - es, our God, where we met you, Lest our hearts, drunk with the
hope that the pres - ent has brought us; Fac - ing the
path through the blood of the slaugh - tered, Out from the
wine of the world, for - get you; Shad-owed be -
ris - ing sun of our new day be - gun, let us march
gloom - y past, till now we stand at last where the white
neath your hand, may we for - ev - er stand, true to our
on till vic - to - ry is won.
gleam of our bright star is cast.
God, true to our na - tive land.